

The Honolulu Gas Co., Ltd. takes pleasure in announcing a reduction in its rates beginning with bills for January Service.

Former rates have been \$1.75 per thousand cubic feet, subject to a discount of 25c per thousand if paid on or before the twentieth of the month. The new rates will be \$1.75 per thousand for the first two thousand cubic feet and \$1.50 per thousand for additional consumption. These new rates are all subject to the same discount of 25c per thousand, thus making the net price \$1.50 per thousand for the first two thousand feet consumed and \$1.25 for each additional thousand, provided bills are paid by the twentieth of the succeeding month.

To consumers who use thirty thousand feet or more monthly we will offer a still further reduction.

In addition to this cut in rates the service to the public has been made still more efficient.

"YOU WILL BE PLEASED WITH OUR SERVICE."

HIGH COST OF SPENDING A CITY DOLLAR SHOWN BY GRAND JURORS

Statistical Data on City Engineering and Road Department Part of Report

Excessive cost in running the municipal road department is pointed out by the territorial grand jury in the long report rendered Monday for the year 1915. In Monday's summary of this report, the Star-Bulletin omitted on account of lack of space some interesting statistical data showing the high cost of operating this department.

This section of the grand jury's report is as follows:

The only available data is the report of the city and county engineer, copy of which is hereto attached, covering the period from January, 1913, to and including May, 1915. This has been carefully examined, more particularly that portion covering the period from January 1 to May 31, 1915. It shows expenditures of road moneys as follows:

	Total expended.	Maintenance.	Overhead Expenses.
Honolulu road department	\$65,726.83	\$25,448.14	\$30,278.69
Ewa district	7,008.04	4,083.45	2,924.59
Wahiawae district	2,821.03	2,056.83	764.20
Waiālaea district	4,088.30	2,854.01	1,834.29
Koolauloa district	4,727.97	2,792.04	1,935.93
Koolāupoko district	4,468.91	2,819.02	1,649.89
Total	\$89,441.08	\$50,053.49	\$39,387.59

The expenditure of \$35,000 for maintenance, at a cost of \$30,000 in overhead expense shows that for each dollar so expended, it cost 80 1/2 cents. This is a bad enough showing, but take into consideration that the money actually spent for maintenance is probably not more than 50 per cent efficient, and you have a state of affairs that is appalling.

The following table shows the percentage of total disbursements for maintenance and overhead charges; also cost per \$100 for maintenance:

District	Maintenance.	Overhead.	Cost per \$100.
Honolulu	53.92%	46.08%	\$80.54
Ewa	58.41%	41.59%	71.40
Wahiawae	73.91%	26.09%	37.16
Waiālaea	69.80%	30.20%	64.20
Koolauloa	56.98%	43.02%	69.30
Koolāupoko	63.00%	37.00%	58.50

In this connection, it is but fair to state that in this district of Honolulu, where it cost \$50.50 to spend every \$100, there was purchased during the month of May for equipment:

Two asphalt beaters	\$380.00
One Ford car	560.00
One road roller	4,200.00
One scarifier	580.00
Total	\$5,720.00

Whilst this, of course, occasioned some increase in percentage of overhead expense, it is, in the opinion of the jury, more than offset by the fact that interest on the same have not been taken into consideration in the making up of the city engineer's report. Interest on the investment is certainly worth consideration, and should be charged to the overhead expense, as should also depreciation which, in a plant of this character, would probably exceed 15 per cent.

The \$5720, above mentioned, if taken from the operating expenses of Honolulu district would materially decrease the percentage of cost in that district, but it would have to be distributed pro rata among all the districts and increase their percentage cost correspondingly—hence the final result as a whole would not be affected.

Inquiry has failed to disclose any inventory showing the value of equipment controlled by the road department. Estimates made by several officials vary widely, being placed as low as \$45,000, and reaching as high as \$75,000 to \$100,000. Taking a conservative view and placing the value at \$60,000 the interest charge at 7 per cent would be \$4,200, and depreciation at 15 per cent, \$9,000, a total of \$13,200 per annum, which should be added to the account for fixed charges.

Specific instances have been brought to the attention of your committee in which road work has been begun, in fact completed, except for the surfacing, and then allowed to stand for extended periods, when it has been washed out by rains, necessitating doing it all over again. There are cases where ordinary prudence and the expenditure of a few dollars at the time would have served the city considerably sums of money. It is also a matter of common knowledge that supplies and equipment have been left on the highways, not housed or cared for. This seems wasteful and careless in the extreme.

The conclusions reached by the grand jury in its roads investigation are as follows:

Too Much Temporary Work.

First: Too much money is being expended for work which at best is only of a temporary nature, much of which is only begun and then allowed

to drag along until washed out by heavy rains, and has to be done again, and too little work of a permanent character. This condition may be relieved, in some measure, by the application of the frontage tax.

Second: That efficiency rather than party affiliation be made the qualifications for employment in the road department. This principle should apply from the engineer to the man with the pick and shovel. Results should be the only criterion. The laborer who loafs on the job should be displaced at once; the overseer who fails to keep his men busy should be fired, and the engineer who cannot make good, lose his official head with equal promptitude.

Operate the road department on the same principle that any private business is conducted. Eliminate waste and extravagance; place the heads of the department on the job unhampered by having to carry the weight of his political boss on the payroll. If this end cannot be obtained under the present system of party government it is strongly urged that our local control be vested in fewer hands and made more sensitive to the will of the people through the medium of the recall. This is the only practical solution that presents itself to the jury.

As a remedy for the evils above enumerated," says the report, "the cantonment system is suggested by which method small slides would be removed as they occur, the ditches kept open, and the roads crowned so that water would drain to either side and vegetation kept from encroaching on road-beds. With such a system in vogue and the installation of sufficient culverts to carry off the water, it is believed that the life of the roads would be greatly extended and the safety and convenience of the public promoted."

FORESTERS INSTALL OFFICERS FOR YEAR

At a meeting of Court Cameos No. 8110, Ancient Order of Foresters, which was held last night, the following officers were installed for the coming term:

Oliver Pedro Soares, junior past chief ranger; Isaac F. Rosa, chief ranger; Manuel Rodriguez Bisho, sub-chief ranger; Louis Aloysius Perry, treasurer; Hypolito (Paul) Pereira, financial secretary; Henry W. Helbush, recording secretary; Joseph Vincente Fernandes, senior woodward; August P. Gomez, junior woodward; Capt. J. A. Gonsalves, senior beadle; Caesar Bettencourt, junior beadle; Dr. H. V. Murray, court physician; O. P. Soares, Ezekiel J. Rego and Joseph Ornellas, trustees.

In the palace of the Serbian Crown Prince at Nish numerous important documents have been found among which are 500 letters from correspondence with rulers. These letters shed an interesting light upon Serbia's role before the beginning of the war.

MURRAY OFFERS PLANS TO COVER SEWER DEFICIT

Manager of Water Department Suggests Tax Rate of 6-100 of One Per Cent

Considerable discussion as to what method to employ in putting the city sewer department upon a paying basis has taken the time of the board of supervisors during the recent talks over the budget for the present half year.

Harry E. Murray, manager of the water department, submitted to the board last night a statement regarding deficits in the sewer department which gathered in the year 1915, and in years previous.

According to the report the deficit carried forward from December, 1914, was \$8586.14. Expenditures from January 1 to December 31, 1915, were \$29,297.53, making a total of \$47,883.67. Receipts for the year amounted to \$20,251.25, leaving a total of deficits of \$17,632.42.

Interest due and payable for the year 1916 by the city will amount to \$14,103.20, while interest for 1915 amounted from the half year period after June 1, to \$7051.

Operating expenses amount to \$62,640.94, including pump expenses at \$16,660; maintenance of sewer lines, \$4240.80; stables, \$420, and office accounts \$2532. This leaves an estimated deficit for December 31, 1916, of \$21,871.14.

Will Reduce Expenses.

Installation of the new equipment at the sewer station, the manager says, will reduce the operating expenses of the pump by one-third.

Figuring that this new equipment will be installed by July 1, 1916, the manager believes that a saving of \$5500 may be made for 1916, leaving a net loss on December 31 of \$16,371.14. Several ways are suggested by the water manager whereby he would put the sewer department on a better paying basis. He proposes to double the sewer rates, from July to December this year, thus bringing in to the department a total of \$17,500, or enough to wipe out the deficit.

At the next session of the legislature, he suggests, a petition should be passed over to the legislature to allow the collection of a general tax rate covering the operating of the sewer department.

He says that a rate of .06 of 1 per cent will produce on a tax valuation of \$90,000,000 approximately \$54,000. This would cover the interest and sinking fund on the bonds already is-

sued and charged to the sewer department, which will amount to \$20,389.71 in 1917, and operating expenses at \$30,000, thus leaving a balance of \$3,610.29 for emergencies.

Pay from General Fund.

Another suggestion is that the city and county pay out of its general funds the estimated deficit for 1916, that is, \$16,371.14, and that in 1917 a petition for the passage of a general tax rate of 1-16 of 1 per cent to cover operating expenses, interest and sinking fund payment, be handed to the legislature.

Still another plan he suggests is that water meters should be installed over the city wherever there is sewer service and that sewer charges be made which shall be from 25 per cent to 50 per cent of the water charges. It is believed that such a charge would be equitable and would effect a large saving of water.

OFFICERS ARE CHOSEN BY CHIEFS OF HAWAII

Officers elected last night to serve for the coming year by Honolulu Council Chiefs of Hawaii were:

Chief regent, J. F. C. Hagens; chief kahuna, John H. Wise; chief recorder, Bruce Cartwright, Jr.; ceremonial chief, Henry C. Beckley; chief barbarian, John C. Lane; assistant kahuna, Edward K. Liliakani, Eben Low, Archie Mahala; assistant barbarians, Charles H. Rose and Duke Kahanamoku; punks, C. H. Cooke; assistant ceremonial chiefs; Francis Brown, Fred Harrison, W. T. Rawlins, Arthur Rice; chief of guards, Robert Hare; inner guard, J. M. Riggs; outer guard, Elia Long.

FIND POSSIBLE SOURCE OF CASH FOR NEW SCHOOL

Structure for Tubercular Children May Be Built From Territorial Appropriation

Money may be used from the territorial appropriation of \$120,000 for the prevention and spread of tuberculosis, to erect a school building in Honolulu for tuberculous children if the board of health so desires.

In an opinion rendered to the board of supervisors last night by Deputy Attorney A. M. Cristy, and approved by Territorial Attorney General I. M. Stainback, the board was thus informed.

"So long as the expenditure desired is for a purpose tending to prevent the spreading of tuberculosis," says the decision, "or involves treatment tending to cure tuberculosis, such expenditures would be well within the terms of the appropriation."

Considerable discussion during the past few months has arisen from time to time at meetings of the supervisors regarding a separate school building for tuberculous children, due largely to letters sent by Dr. A. N. Sinclair, superintendent of Leahi Home for tuberculous patients.

On November 20 Dr. Sinclair wrote to the board urging such a building, and was referred back to the auditor to see if funds for the building could not be taken from the \$120,000 appropriation.

Territorial Auditor J. H. Fisher was absent on the mainland, but his deputy, G. W. R. King, informed the superintendent that in his opinion funds for such a building could not be taken from the appropriation.

Upon receipt of Dr. Sinclair's next letter the supervisors requested their attorney's department to look into the question, with the result that the foregoing opinion has been rendered. It is supposed that Dr. Sinclair will now take the matter of a new building up with the territorial officials.

DIED.

HIKIOIA—In this city, January 11, 1916, Kaai, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Makani Hikiola, of Cummins street, Kewalo, four months old.

SAWAI—In this city, January 11, 1916, Kohai Sawai, of South street, Kakako, single, fisherman, a native of Kumamoto-ken, Japan, 43 years old.

BARTELS—In this city, January 10, 1916, Violet, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bartels, of Queen street, 11 months and 24 days old.

AKIMOTO—In this city, January 10, 1916, Noboru, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arakichi Akimoto, one month and 24 days.

YAMAKAWA—In this city, January 10, 1916, Taro Yamakawa, of Wai-pahu, Oahu, single, laborer, a native of Japan, 34 years old.

JOHNSON—In San Jose, California, December 31, 1915, Miss Jane Johnson, formerly of the Castle Home, Honolulu.

TOURISTS



Fort Street

Tourists are cordially invited to visit the Japanese Bazaar and inspect our wonderfully varied stock of

Japanese Goods

Opposite Catholic Church